

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 139599

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, APER, UN

SUBJECT: UN PERSONNEL.

REF: USUN 2124

1. PARA 2, REFTEL, STATES WALDHEIM ANTICIPATES LOUD AND STRENUOUS COMPLAINTS QUOTE IF UNQUOTE U.S. NOMINEE APPOINT-
ED ASG FOR TCD. USE OF QUOTE IF UNQUOTE MOST DISTRESSING.
THERE SHOULD BE NO QUESTION IN HIS MIND THAT THIS JOB
SHOULD GO TO AN AMERICAN. THE ACTING INCUMBENT, BURNS,
IS AN AMERICAN AND WE HAVE NO INTENTION WHATSOEVER OF RE-
LINQUISHING POST. WE HAVE NOMINATED OUTSTANDING CANDIDATES
AND FAIL TO SEE WHY UK, CHINA, OR USSR WOULD HAVE GREATER
CLAIM. THE LOUD AND STRENUOUS COMPLAINTS HE MAY HEAR FROM
OTHERS WILL BE AS NOTHING COMPARED TO THOSE RAISED BY THE
U.S. SHOULD HE NOT APPOINT ONE OF OUR CANDIDATES TO THIS
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POST.

2. RE PARA 10, REFTEL, CONCERNING CHIEF OF GENERAL LEGAL
DIVISION, WE CERTAINLY AGREE WITH WALDHEIM'S STATEMENT
QUOTE THAT IT IS DETRIMENTAL TO STAFF MORALE IF THERE ARE
NOT PROMOTIONS FROM WITHIN AND IF ALL VACANCIES ARE FILLED
WITH APPOINTMENTS FROM OUTSIDE AT NOMINATION OF MEMBER

GOVERNMENTS UNQUOTE. AS HE WILL RECALL, U.S. DID NOT INSIST

ON EXTERNAL CANDIDATES WHEN HE DECIDED TO FILL POST OF ASG FOR GENERAL SERVICES WITH INTERNAL CANDIDATE - TIMBRELL (US). ALSO, U.S. HAS NOT STRENUOUSLY OBJECTED TO HIS DECISION TO REPLACE BILL POWELL WITH INTERNAL CANDIDATE, STAJDUHAR (YUGOSLAVIA). IN LEGAL OFFICE ITSELF, RECORD WILL SHOW THAT IN 1974, WHEN JOHN HONNOLD (US) RETIRED AS D-1 CHIEF OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW BRANCH, U.S. ACCEDED TO HIS SUCCESSION BY HIS DEPUTY, WILLIAM VIS (NETHERLANDS). MORE RECENTLY, IN LATE 1976, WHEN GURDON WATTLES (US,D-1) RETIRED FROM OFFICE OF LEGAL ADVISER, U.S. ACCEDED TO INTERNAL REASSIGNMENT OF PAUL SZASZ (US) AS HIS REPLACEMENT.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT THE RECORD IS CLEAR THAT U.S. STAUNCHLY SUPPORTS CAREER DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES IN UN. THIS, HOWEVER, IS NOT A LICENCE TO REPEATEDLY DENY SENIOR POSTS TO AMERICANS. WE WONDER HOW MANY OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES ARE AS FOREBEARING AS U.S. WE RECALL REPORTED MID-APRIL EXCHANGE BETWEEN WALDHEIM AND FRENCH AMBASSADOR LEPRETTE DURING WHICH LATTER QUOTE STORMED AT AFFRONT TO THE FRENCH LANGUAGE UNQUOTE WHEN WALDHEIM TOLD HIM EXTERNAL FRENCH CANDIDATE NOT QUALIFIED AND HE WAS GOING TO APPOINT HIGHLY QUALIFIED INTERNAL UK NATIONAL AS CHIEF OF UN BUDGET DIVISION. REPORTEDLY WALDHEIM THEN RETREATED AND AGREED THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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FRENCH COULD NOMINATE A THIRD EXTERNAL CANDIDATE. POINT HERE IS THAT OTHERS ARE RETAINING KEY SLOTS FOR THEIR NATIONALS AND WE BEING ASKED TO STEP ASIDE.

4. WALDHEIM MIGHT WELL BE ASKED IF HE PLANS TO REPLACE SOVIET NATIONAL IN LEGAL OFFICE CODIFICATION DIVISION WITH ANOTHER NATIONALITY. AS MISSION KNOWS, HE REPORTEDLY PLANS TO REPLACE RYBAKOV WITH ANOTHER SOVIET, VALENTIN ROMANOV, EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE CERTAINLY QUALIFIED PERSONS WITHIN UN SYSTEM. YET, IT APPEARS THAT HE IS SAYING THAT SLOAN NEED NOT BE REPLACED BY AMERICAN EVEN THOUGH POST HAS ALWAYS BEEN HELD BY AMERICAN AND THERE COMPELLING REASONS WHY POST SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE HELD BY AMERICAN.

5. DEPT BELIEVES THAT WALDHEIM HAS TO BE MADE TO UNDERSTAND THAT U.S. IS NOT PREPARED TO LOSE TCD AND LEGAL POSTS. WHILE WE CAN APPRECIATE HIS PROBLEMS IN PERSONNEL AREA, HE CANNOT SOLVE THEM AT OUR EXPENSE. WE LEAVE IT TO USUN TO CONVEY THE MESSAGE TO WALDHEIM AND IN SUCH A MANNER THAT THERE IS NO QUESTION IN HIS MIND AS TO THE DEPTH OF OUR FEELING. IF NEED BE, U.S. CAN ADOPT PERSONAL PRESSURE TACTICS USED EFFECTIVELY BY OTHERS WITH WALDHEIM. VANCE

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